

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 251864

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REFS: USNATO 6307; USNATO 6289; USNATO 6239

1. WE HAVE DIFFICULTY IN ACCEPING REDUCTION OF LIST OF
KEY ELEMENTS COVERED IN DRC DRAFTING TO FOUR (WARNING OF
WAR, DURATION OF HOSTILITIES, RESOURCES, AND STRATEGY/
RESOURCES/PRIORITIES).

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PAGE 02 STATE 251864

2. IN OUR VIEW, CONSIDERATION OF KEY ELEMENTS OF CON-

VENTIONAL BALANCE AND INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH COOPERATION ARE ESSENTIAL ADDITIONS IF MINISTERS ARE TO HAVE AN ADEQUATE DISCUSSION ON THE BASIS OF A DRC PAPER. MISSION PROPOSAL FOR INCORPORATION OF QTE INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS UNQTE IN KEY ELEMENTS OF STRATEGY/RESOURCES AS PER USNATO 6289 REPRESENTS MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE COVERAGE ON THIS POINT IF FULLER COVERAGE NOT ATTAINABLE. FYI: WITH REGARD TO CONVENTIONAL BALANCE WE DO NOT WISH DRC TO GET INTO A DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF THE BALANCE WHICH IS TASK OF MCSSG. POINT HERE IS WHETHER A STALWART CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY IS ATTAINABLE AND MAINTAINABLE WITH THE PROJECTED RESOURCE LEVELS INCREASING MARGINALLY, IF GREATER EFFECTIVENESS IS GAINED THROUGH COOPERATION. END FYI.

3. WE BELIEVE DRC DISCUSSIONS TO DATE FURNISH ADEQUATE BASIS FOR COVERAGE OF THESE ADDITIONAL KEY ELEMENTS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS. WHILE THERE MAY BE NO CLEARLY DEFINED OPPOSITION TO THE CONCEPT OF INCREASED COOPERATION AS A MEANS OF SEEKING GREATER DEFENSE EFFECTIVENESS, THE EMPHASIS TO BE GIVEN THIS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF FOLLOW-THROUGH WARRANT MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT.

4. WE LEAVE TO MISSION FINAL JUDGMENT ON HOW HARD TO PUSH FOR INCLUSION OF THESE TWO ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS, IN VIEW OF LIMITED TIME REMAINING FOR DRC WORK. INCLUSION OF THESE TWO ELEMENTS WOULD CLEARLY ASSIST MINISTERS; EXCLUSION FROM DRC DRAFT DOES NOT MAKE THEM ANY LESS IMPORTANT.

5. AS A GENERAL COMMENT, WE FIND MISSION WORK TO DATE IN DEVELOPING BACKGROUND FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF KEY ELEMENTS MOST EFFECTIVE.

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